

AVENGERS

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MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

THE MIGHTY AVENGERS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



THE MONARCH
AND THE
MAN-APE!

Telegram-Marvel comics
(Avengers)

THE
DANGER
IS
ENDED!

THANKS TO DR. STRANGE,
THE WORLD HAS
SURVIVED THE DOUBLE
PERIL OF FIRE AND
ICE!*

BUT THE MYSTIC
HAS VANISHED...
LEAVING US IN
THIS PLACE OF
FIERCE, FREEZING
COLD!

YOU
SHOULD
TALK,
VISION!

I'M THE ONE
HAD TO BURN
HIS OWN
ARROWS!

SOON, YOU'LL
NOT NEED
THIS FIRE TO
WARM YOU,
MY FRIEND!

YEAH?
WHY
NOT?

YOU PLANNIN'
TO FLY US
ALL TO THE
BAHAMAS
ON YOUR
MAGIC
CARPET?

*IF YOU'VE FORGOTTEN
LAST ISH'S TITANIC
TALE, NEVER MIND--
IT'LL COME BACK TO
YOU!--STAN.

ON THE WONHARCH AND THE WANT-APET!

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YOU ARE NOT FAR WRONG, HAWKEYE!

I HAVE SENT FOR MY PERSONAL AIRCRAFT--AS YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED!

HOLY COW!

HE WHISTLES...AND IT COMES RUNNIN'!

WHAT PILOT COULD HAVE FOUND US SO QUICKLY?

NO HUMAN PILOT, AVENGER...

BUT AUTOMATIC CONTROLS...SET WHEN I LEFT MY JUNGLE KINGDOM, MONTHS AGO...

...AND ACTIVATED BY MINIATURE DEVICES INSIDE MY BELT BUCKLE!

AND NOW, IF THE THREE OF YOU WILL BE MY ROYAL GUESTS...

YA TALKED US INTO IT, PANTHER!

THE ENTRANCE-HATCH IS EVEN LARGE ENOUGH FOR WINGED ARAGORN!

THERE'S A SIDE TO THE BLACK PANTHER I'D NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED!

WE'RE ALL A BIT IN THE DARK ABOUT OL' T'CHALLA, PAL!

WELL, WHO KNOWS?

MAYBE THIS IS THE DAY WE LEARN ALL ABOUT OUR AFRICAN AVENGER!

...ALL AVENGERS MUST RESPECT THEIR FELLOWS' RIGHT TO PRIVACY, PANTHER!

STILL, WE MUST KNOW WHERE YOU'RE TAKING US!

THE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE MUST REMAIN MY SECRET, VISION!

BUT, WE ARE BOUND FOR--THE LAND OF THE WAKANDAS!

THEN, SUDDENLY,
AS A VERDANT
PATCH OF JUNGLE
YAWNS BENEATH
THE SHIP...

WE WERE
IN AFRICA
ALL THE
TIME!

BUT,
THAT
ICE--THE
BITING
COLD--!

THEY WERE BUT
REMINERS OF YMIR,
BOWMAN...THE ICE
MONSTER WE
VANQUISHED!

BUT NOW,
BRACE YOUR-
SELVES!

WE ARE
GOING...
DOWN!!

**GREAT
MERLIN!**

MY HUMBLE
THANKS FOR
THE
COMPLIMENT,
BLACK KNIGHT!

THE JUNGLE
FLOOR PARTED...
AND WE WERE
LOWERED INTO
A MECHANIZED
WONDERLAND!

THE PROUD
WAKANDA DO,
INDEED, DWELL
IN PART WITHIN
A MAN-MADE
JUNGLE!

NO MAN--WHITE
OR BLACK--GAINS
ADMITTANCE TO
OUR LAND UNLESS
WE DESIRE IT!



SHEESH!/- THIS IS WHAT T'CHALLA CALLS HOME SWEET HOME?

WHO'S HIS BUTLER-- BELA LUGOSI?

WE'LL ASK HIM, ARCHER, WHEN HE EMERGES FROM HIS FLAGSHIP!

LOOKS LIKE A LEFT-OVER SET FROM BARBARELLA!

MEANWHILE, THINK ON HOW THIS LOOKS TO AN ANDROID--TO ONE WHO HAS NO MEMORIES OF HOME OR HEARTH....!

WAIT! THAT OMINOUS HUMMING!

COMING FROM ABOVE-- ALMOST AS IF THIS WERE--



A TRAP!!

BUT--WE'RE THE GUESTS OF THE BLACK PANTHER!

WHO WOULD DARE--??

I HAVE A QUESTION FROM THE BALCONY, DOCTOR--

SLAM!



--AND HERE COMES THE DOWN-HOME TRUTH SQUAD NOW!

SHOCK THEM INTO SUBMISSION! QUICKLY!!



NO WALL OF MERE PLEXI-GLASS CAN HOLD--THE VISION!

FOR, I CAN EITHER REDUCE MY MOLECULAR DENSITY --AND WALK THRU IT--

OR, AS NOW-- I CAN SMASH IT WITH A FIST AS HARD AS DIAMOND!!



ONE OF THEM
ESCAPES!

FIRE!

WE ARE
FIRING,
BUT--
LOOK!



YES, LOOK--AND, IF
YOUR EYES ARE FAST
ENOUGH--

YOU'LL SEE
YOUR PUNY BULLETS
SHATTER ON MY
ANDROID FRAME!

NOW I'LL
JOIN THE
FRAY--
WITH MY
EBONY
BLADE!

BUT, NONE
OF THIS
MAKES ANY
SENSE!



SHOTS--
OUTSIDE
THE SHIP!

WHATEVER
THEIR
SOURCE--
WHATEVER
THEIR CAUSE
--THEY MUST
CEASE!

WOULD
SOME MAD
FOOL UNDO
THE WORK
OF YEARS?



HALT!!

NO! IT
CANNOT
BE!

IT'S--PRINCE
T'CHALLA!

THE BLACK
PANTHER HAS
RETURNED!



AND RETURNED ONLY,
IT SEEMS, TO FIND HIS
SUBJECTS BECOME
ASSASSINS!

AND YET, T'CHALLA--
IF THEY THOUGHT
WE WERE
INTRUDERS--!

NO MATTER!

W'KABI--SPEAK THE
COMMAND I GAVE
BEFORE I DEPARTED
THIS LAND!

WE...WERE NEVER TO USE OUR
WEAPONS AGAINST MEN...EXCEPT
BY ROYAL ORDER!

BUT, MIGHTY
CHIEFTAIN--

THAT ORDER
HAS BEEN
GIVEN!

...BY HIM
WHO RULES
FOR YOU--BY
M'BAKU!



I HAVE LONG AWAITED
THIS HALCYON HOMECOMING,
MIGHTY CHIEFTAIN!

THOUGH YOURS IS
THE SACRED PANTHER
POWER--THOUGH NONE
IN THE JUNGLE HAS
EVER MATCHED YOUR
PROWESS--

STILL, ONLY
ONE MAY
SIT THE
THRONE OF
WAKANDA!

AND, THAT
ONE MUST
EVER BE...
M'BAKU!

YET, EVEN A VILLAIN MAY SMILE... AND SMILE...

WELCOME, ONCE AND EVER CHIEFTAIN, TO YOUR
HOMELAND!

COMMANDS WHICH WE
MUST DISCUSS, OLD
FRIEND!

AFTER THE
BLACK KNIGHT AND
MY FELLOW AVENGERS
ARE SEEN TO!

A THOUSAND PARDONS FOR
THE GUN-CRAZED FOOLS
WHO MISCONSTRUED
MY COMMANDS!

OF
COURSE,
O T'CHALLA!

THIS IS
INDEED A
DAY FOR
FEASTING!

...SO YOU SEE, MY ORDERS WERE NOT ILL-
CONSIDERED!

REPORTS HAVE COME TO ME
THAT YOUR OLD ENEMY, KLAU,
IS AFOOT ONCE MORE!

A SIMPLE
CALL TO ME
WOULD HAVE
DISPELLED
SUCH
RUMORS, M'BAKU!

KLAU LANGUISHES IN
PRISON... WHERE HE
HAS EVER BELONGED!

STILL, PERHAPS
YOUR MOTIVES
WERE BETTER
THAN YOUR
JUDGMENT!

I SHALL
WITHHOLD
MY
VERDICT...!

THIS IS
ONE MEAL
I COULD
REALLY
ENJOY...

IF ONLY I
KNEW WHERE
NATASHA IS!*

*WOULD HE? NOT IF HE PORED
OVER CAPTAIN MARVEL #12!
--STAN.

SO THIS
IS T'CHALLA'S
KINGDOM--
--WHICH HE
LEFT TO
SERVE THE
WHOLE OF
HUMANITY!

MY HEART WAXES GLAD THAT YOU HAVE NOT MISUNDERSTOOD MY INTENT, GOOD T'CHALLA!

THUS, LET M'BAKU PROPOSE A TOAST!

A TOAST TO THE BLACK PANTHER-- AND TO HIS HONORED GUESTS!

I'LL DRINK YOUR TOAST, M'BAKU!

BUT, MY DECISION IS ONLY POST-PONED...

HOWEVER, AS EVEN THE ANDROID VISION SIPPS FROM THE PROFFERED CUPS...

THE WINE... DRUGGED! WHAT--PP

CAN'T... STAY AWAKE...

YOU-- M'BAKU!

THIS WAS... YOUR TRAITOROUS DEED...

YOURS...

HAH! THE DRUG HAS TAKEN EFFECT!

N'GAMO... MAKE READY NOW THE FINAL PHASE!

YES, MY CHIEF!

WITH INFINITE RELISH!

M'BAKU!

--IN OUR LEGENDS, THE MOST SAVAGE... MOST MERCILESS OF BEASTS!

WEARING THE FORBIDDEN GUISE OF THE WHITE GORILLA--

IT WAS YOU WHO FORBADE SUCH REGALIA, PANTHER--

NOT M'BAKU!

...AWAKEN, DOOMED ONE!

LOOK ON THE SNARLING VISION OF DOOM!!

VOICES... SPINNING IN MY TORTURED BRAIN!

AND... FACES... BESTIAL, GROTESQUE, MOCKING...

NOT HE WHO IS CALLED ...THE MAN- APE!

GAZE, AS YOUR SENSES RETURN TO YOU, ON YOUR GRAVEN PANTHER-IMAGE, RISING FROM ITS SUNKEN SILO!

SOON, IT WILL BE BUT BLACK RUBBLE-- BENEATH WHICH YOU SHALL LIE BURIED!

AND IN ITS PLACE --LOOK BEHIND YOU, FOOL!

A GIANT, WHITE GORILLA-- CARVED OF NEW-HEWN STONE!

WHAT TREACHERY IS THIS, M'BAKU?

CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL!

TO ME, THAT COLOSSUS IS A TOWERING SYMBOL--

A SYMBOL THAT A NEW DAY HAS DAWNED IN WAKANDA--

THE DAY OF THE MAN-APE!

HE MISSED ME--AS IF ON PURPOSE-- AND SPLINTERED THAT TREE BEHIND ME!

BUT, WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF HIS NEW-FOUND, INCREDIBLE STRENGTH?

NO MATTER NOW!

FIRST, WITH THE SPEED OF THE BEAST WHOSE NAME I BEAR--

THE BLACK PANTHER MUST STRIKE!



WHAT
MADNESS
IS THIS??

HE TOOK
THE FULL
BRUNT OF
THE BLOW--!

I SHALL
TAKE FAR
MORE
THAN
THAT,
FOOL--



I SHALL
ALSO TAKE
--YOUR
LIFE!



HE TOYS WITH ME--
AS IF UNWILLING
THAT I SHOULD
DIE QUICKLY!

BUT, WHY DO
MY OWN
PEOPLE
NOT RISE
AGAINST
HIM?



WHY DO THEY KNEEL
BENEATH HIS TYRANT
FOOT--FORGETTING
THEIR PROUD
HERITAGE?

HOW CAN THE BLACK
PANTHER FIGHT ON,
IF HIS
TRIBES-
MEN NO
LONGER
VALUE
THEIR
FREEDOM?



FREEDOM?

YOU DARE
TO SPEAK OF
FREEDOM?

YOU, WHO
HAVE SOLD
YOURSELF
TO OUR
WHITE-
SKINNED
ENEMIES?

AAARRRH!



RISE, O CHIEF!

PROVE THE FALSEHOOD OF M'BAKU'S CLAIMS!

AY--SHOW US THAT YOU ARE NO MAN'S LACKEY--GROWN SOFT FROM YOUR STAYS IN OTHER LANDS!

THEN... THAT IS THE REASON...

THE REASON WHY I MUST FIGHT THIS TRAITOR... ALONE!



SERVILE, WHIMPERING SCUM!

HAS NOT M'BAKU DECREED THAT NONE SHOULD SPEAK TO HIM WHO IS CHALLENGED?

NO-- NO!!



NOW, YOU SHALL SPEAK TO NO ONE--

NOT UNTIL THE BATTLE IS LONG SINCE DECIDED!



SO--I AM CHALLENGED... BY ANCIENT TRIBAL LAW!

THEN, LET THE--

HOLD! THAT SLIGHT RUSTLING BEHIND ME--!



AIIEEEE! MERCY!!

THEY ALWAYS CRY FIRST TO RECEIVE MERCY--



WHO WOULD BE THE LAST TO BESTOW IT!!

TH
K
O



SUCH GOLDEN WORDS
MAY SERVE YOU WELL
IN THE **OUTER** WORLD,
PUNY ONE!

BUT, IN THE **JUNGLE**,
THEY ONLY WASTE
PRECIOUS MOMENTS--

DURING WHICH
I CAN TURN
THIS UPROOTED
TREE--INTO A
DEADLY **MISSILE!**



AND SO IT
WOULD HAVE
BEEN--BUT FOR
MY **PANTHER
SPEED!**

BUT, I CANNOT
PROVE MY CAUSE
BY MERE
FLIGHT!

MUST GAIN
TIME TO **THINK**--
TO PLOT A
STRATEGY!

THERE--
IN THE
DARKENED
**CONTROL
CENTER**
OF MY
MAN-MADE
JUNGLE!



**STOP,
M'BAKU!**

THINK OF
WHAT YOU
ARE DOING
TO YOUR
FELLOW
**TRIBES-
MEN--**TO
YOURSELF!

WOULD YOU
WIPE OUT
ALL PROGRESS
--TURN THE
WAKANDAS
BACK DOWN
THE ROAD TO
SAVAGERY?

AY,
PANTHER--

FOR, ONLY IN
A **PRIMITIVE**
WORLD IS
POWER ITS
OWN REWARD!



IT IS **USELESS** TO
TRADE WORDS WITH
THAT HUMAN BEHEMOTH!

BUT, AT LEAST I HAVE
LED HIM AWAY FROM
THE CAPTIVE **AVENGERS**--
AND--

WAIT!



IT IS **BEYOND BELIEF!**
HE **SMASHED** DOWN THE
DOOR WITH ONE BLOW!

YOU
MIGHT
AS WELL
TAKE
REFUGE
IN A HUT
OF **STRAW**,
JACKAL--

--AS HOPE
THAT MERE
METAL
COULD
SHIELD
YOU FROM
M'BAKU!





BUT, THERE SHALL BE A TIME LATER FOR TEARS OF REMORSE!

FOR NOW, I MUST FREE THE AVENGERS --THEN...

HOLD! THAT NOISE--!



--IS THE SOUND OF YOUR OWN DOOM, FOOL-- CLATTERING DOWN BEFORE YOU!

AN IRON WALL--

IMPRISONING ME WITHIN THIS ROOM!



M'BAKU PLANNED IT THUS!

THEN WHY--

--DID I FEIGN DEFEAT?



I COULD NOT RISK YOUR ESCAPING --INTO THE JUNGLE BLACKNESS!



HE TURNED ON THE LIGHTS!

MY POWER IS HALVED, WITHOUT THE DARKNESS IN WHICH I THRIVE!



EVEN HERE--ON A PRECARIOUS PERCH HIGH ABOVE THE FLOOR--

I KNOW NO MOMENT OF RESPITE!

NOR SHALL YOU EVER AGAIN FEEL THE BALM OF REST--

RRIP



UNLESS
IT BE IN
THE CLAMMY
QUIET OF
THE GRAVE!!

HE SLAMMED THE
DYNAMO **DOWNWARD**
--AT **HURRICANE**
SPEED!

THE **FORCE**
ALONE WOULD
HAVE BEEN
FATAL--

THOOM!!



--TO ONE NOT ENDOWED
WITH **CATLIKE** PROWESS--

INCLUDING THE ABILITY
TO LAND ALWAYS ON
ONE'S SUPPLE **LIMBS!**

BUT, IT
ALSO
MATTERS
WHERE
ONE LANDS,
PANTHER!



AND YOU,
I FEAR,
LANDED IN
THE MOST
DANGEROUS
PLACE OF
ALL!

THE
FLOOR--
IT OPENS
BENEATH
ME!

FALLING
THRU--INTO
THE **ATOMIC**
FIRES WHICH
RAGE BELOW!

ONE
SEARING
TOUCH--
MEANS
ANGUISHED
DEATH!!



BROKE
MY FALL--
MERE
INCHES
FROM A
FIERY
END!

YET,
EVEN
ONE
INCH
IS FAR
ENOUGH--



--IF IT LEAVES THE
BLACK PANTHER
ALIVE TO FIGHT--
TO ENDURE--TO
CONQUER!



AHEAD
ROARS THE
ATOMIC
FURNACE--
MOLTEN,
SEETHING!

BUT,
WHICH
WAY LIES
THE PATH
TO
SAFETY?

WHILE
BEHIND
ME--

--WAITS
DOOM!!



M'BAKU!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN
YOU WOULD NEVER TRUST
THE NUCLEAR FLAMES
TO DO YOUR HANDI-
WORK!

IT PLEASES
ME THAT YOU
WERE SPARED
THAT FORM OF
DEATH,
HAPLESS ONE--



--THAT I MYSELF MIGHT--

YEEOWWWP!

YOU
NEED NOT
FINISH
YOUR
SNARLING
THREATS,
MAN-APE...



THE **BLACK PANTHER** HAS
HEARD SUCH DIRE MOUTHINGS
BEFORE--

AS HE HAS
FOUGHT ALONGSIDE
THE **FANTASTIC
FOUR--CAPTAIN
AMERICA--THE
MIGHTY
AVENGERS!**

UHHNNN!



**MUST
DESTROY YOU
--MUST--!**

YOUR DAYS OF
DESTRUCTION
--OF TYRANNY--
ARE ENDED!
NOW--

WAIT!
YOU'RE
FALL-
ING--!



**GOT
YOU!**

SAVE
ME,
T'CHALLA
--SAVE
ME!

I WAS
A FOOL
--TO
USURP
YOUR
THRONE!

**PULL
ME
UP!!**



NO MATTER
WHAT YOUR
DESERTS,
M'BAKU...

I SHALL
SAVE YOU...
IN THE
NAME OF
PERISHED
FRIEND-
SHIP!

YES--YES--
AND I
SHALL
FAITH-
FULLY
SERVE YOU
ONCE
AGAIN--



**BUT
HURRY--
HURRY!**

AY, HURRY...
THAT ALL
THE SOONER
I MAY
TASTE--

SKRUNCH!



VICTORY!!

I--EXPECTED TREACHERY-- BUT DID NOT GUESS ITS SOURCE!

OHHH!

CAN'T STAND-- THE SHOCK! --BLACK-ING OUT!



OH NO, MY DEAR CHIEFTAIN!

YOU SHALL NOT PLUMMET HEADLONG INTO INSTANT OBLIVION!

OTHERS MUST WITNESS YOUR DESTRUCTION-- AND TREMBLE...

THAT NEVER-MORE SHALL ANY DARE TO CHALLENGE... M'BAKU THE MAN-APe!



THUS, WHEN T'CHALLA'S CATLIKE EYES ONCE MORE PIERCE THE GLOOM, THEY BEHOLD--

YOUR VAUNTED PANTHER-IMAGE... DECADENT SYMBOL OF YOUR WEAK-KNEED RULE!

SOON IT WILL TOPPLE UPON YOU...AND WITH ITS FALL...

DARKNESS RETURNS AGAIN TO THE PRIMEVAL JUNGLE!

PROVING NOTHING, MY FRIEND...

...EXCEPT THAT YOU ARE WORSE THAN A SAVAGE... YOU ARE A MADMAN!!



MAD, AM I?

COULD ANY MERE MADMAN DO THIS?

HE STRIKES THE BASE OF THE STATUE-- WITH HIS FULL, INFIDEL POWER!

HOW LONG-- BEFORE IT FALLS FORWARD-- CRUSHES ME TO A PULP?

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, NOT FAR AWAY,
OTHERS ARE ALSO AWAKENING...REMEMBERING
A GLOATING HOST, AND A SIP OF
TAINTED WINE...

THAT CRUMB
M'BAKU--HE
MUST HAVE
DOUBLE-CROSSED
THE PANTHER!

BUT, WHAT CAN
WE DO--STRIPPED
OF OUR
WEAPONS!

YOU TWO
MAY HAVE
BEEN ROBBED
OF ARROWS
AND SWORD!

BUT, NO MAN
MAY DEPRIVE
THE VISION
OF--

THE
POWER
OF A
MASSIVE
BATTERING
RAM!!

NOW,
HURRY--
EACH
SECOND
MAY BE
VITAL--!



MMFFF!
WHAT
INSANITY
IS THIS?

THE
PANTHER
STATUE
TILTS...
BUT
DOES NOT
TOPPLE!

IT MUST FALL--IT MUST!

FOR, IN M'BAKU'S
VEINS NOW
FLOWS THE
BLOOD OF THE
UNHOLY WHITE
GORILLA!

THE BLACK
PANTHER
MUST DIE--
THAT THE
DAY OF THE
MAN-APES
MAY BEGIN!

THE
STATUE
MUST
FALL!!



WAIT!
THAT
RUMBLING,
CRACKING
NOISE!

THE IDOL
ISN'T
FALLING--
IT'S
CRUMBLING--

CRUMBLING--

